

MEMORANDUM 3-T-04

DATE: January 22, 2004

TO: Planning and Zoning Board Members

FROM: Bruce D. Chatterton, Planning and Zoning Services Manager

VIA: Chris Barton, AICP, ASLA, Principal Planner

BY: ULDR Amendment Team:
Elizabeth V. Holt, AICP, Planner III, Team Leader, and
Dave Gennaro, Chief Landscape Plans Examiner

SUBJECT: Case 3-T-04 Amendment to ULDR Section 47-21 *Landscape and Tree Preservation Requirements*

The changes proposed in the attached draft ordinance (attached as **Exhibit 1**), are being proposed in response to a request by Broward County that the City amend its Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance to be consistent with, and at least as stringent as, the County's Tree Preservation Ordinance. Changes are shown as "striketrough" for words to be deleted, and "underline" for words to be added.

The City's ordinance was in compliance with the County ordinance until Broward County recently amended its regulations. In order to remain consistent, and allow the City's ordinance to be recertified by the County, these amendments must be adopted within a certain time of the county's amendments. The effective date of the county's ordinance was May 20, 2003. The City did not process the necessary changes within 6-months of the effective date because the County's letter (dated June 19, 2003 and attached as **Exhibit 2**) was delayed. However, an agreement was reached between the City and the County that we would apply the more restrictive regulations, until the time that an ordinance can be adopted (letter dated November 20, 2003, attached as **Exhibit 3**).

The proposed amendments, in summary, will:

1. Change the definition of "hatracking" to include all mature wood.
2. Remove the ficus species from the list of trees excepted from the American National Standards Institute, A-300 standards as they apply to persons engaged in business as a tree service in the city.
3. Adds the 'pruning of live palm fronds which initiate above the horizontal plane' to the list of actions which constitute tree abuse, and
4. Eliminates the requirement that cuts to a tree be 'flush' (flat or level).

Staff Recommendation: Recommend the proposed amendments to the City Commission.

Planning and Zoning Board

Acting as the Local Planning Agency:

The Board shall consider a motion finding that the proposed amendments are consistent with the City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan, Future Land Use Element, as follows:

Objective 22: Continue to respond to identified problems/opportunities; develop incentive systems for quality development and redevelopment; prevent incompatible uses; and incorporate design criteria.

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Board Review Options:

1. Recommend the proposed amendment to the City Commission, as proposed,
2. Recommend the proposed amendment to the City Commission with revisions,
3. Recommend denial of the amendment to the City Commission.

PZ3-T-04/01-22-04/EVH

Attachments